

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) A method for treating Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection or inhibiting HBV virus replication comprising administering to an HBV-infected patient as the only antiviral agent a compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium, wherein said compound inhibits activation of Pyk2 in an *in vitro* assay.

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 ~~or 23~~ wherein the compound decreases or interferes with an HBx-mediated change in cytosolic calcium.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the compound decreases or interferes with the activity of a mitochondrial calcium channel.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the compound inhibits or interferes with the activity of an endoplasmic reticulum calcium channel.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the compound is Cyclosporin A.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the compound is 1,2-bis(2-aminophenoxy)ethane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetate (BAPTA) or bis-(o-aminophenyl)ethyleneglycol-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid (BAPTA-AM).

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium is determined by an *in vitro* assay comprising:

- a) contacting a cell expressing HBx with the compound;

b) determining whether the level of cytosolic calcium is modulated in those cells contacted with the compound as compared to the level of cytosolic calcium in cells expressing HBx in the absence of the compound.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 23 ~~22~~ wherein the compound that inhibits activation of Pyk2 alters the level of cytosolic calcium is determined by an *in vitro* assay comprising:

- a) contacting a cell expressing HBx with the compound; and
- b) determining whether ~~the level of cytosolic calcium is modulated~~ Pyk2 activation is altered in those cells contacted with the compound as compared to ~~the level of cytosolic calcium~~ Pyk2 activation in cells expressing HBx in the absence of the compound.

31. (new) A method for treating Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection or inhibiting HBV virus replication comprising administering to an HBV-infected patient as the only antiviral agent a compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium, in an amount effective to inhibit HBV replication, wherein the compound that alters the level of cytosolic calcium is determined by an *in vitro* assay comprising:

- a) contacting a cell expressing HBx with the compound; and
- b) determining whether the level of cytosolic calcium is modulated in those cells contacted with the compound as compared to the level of cytosolic calcium in cells expressing HBx in the absence of the compound.

32. (new) A method for treating Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection or inhibiting HBV virus replication comprising administering to an HBV-infected patient an effective amount of a compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium, wherein said compound is 1,2-bis(2-aminophenoxy)ethane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetate (BAPTA) or bis-(o-aminophenyl)ethyleneglycol-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid (BAPTA-AM).

33. (new) A method for treating Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection or inhibiting HBV virus replication comprising administering to an HBV-infected patient a composition in which the only active antiviral agent is a compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium, in an amount effective to inhibit HBV replication, wherein said compound is Cyclosporin A, nifedipine, nimodipine, amlodipine, felodipine, isradipine, nicardipine, nisoldipine, a benzothiazepine, a phenylalkylamine, verapamil, a

diarylaminopropylamine ether, bepridil, a benzimidazole-substituted tetraline, mibepradil Piperazine, flunarizine, (\pm)-verapamil hydrochloride, omega-Agatoxin TK, omega-Agatoxin IVA, amiloride, (\pm)-Methoxyverapamil, aminohexahydrofluorene, calciclidine, calciseptine, diltiazem, flunarizine, FS2, galanin, HA 1004, HA 1077, nitrendipine, TaiCatoxin, protopine, BAPTA, MAPTAM, and EGTA.

34. (new) A method for treating Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection or inhibiting HBV virus replication comprising administering to an HBV-infected patient a compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium in combination with one or more additional compounds, wherein said one or more additional compounds are selected from the group consisting of interleukin-1, interleukin-2, thymosin-alpha, vidarabine, fialuridine, lamivudine, famcyclovir, ribavarin, prednisone, and azathioprine; wherein the compound which modulates the level of cytosolic calcium inhibits Pyk2 activity in an *in vitro* assay.

35. (new) The method of claim 35 wherein said compound that modulates the level of cytosolic calcium is Cyclosporin A, nifedipine, nimodipine, amlodipine, felodipine, isradipine, nicardipine, nisoldipine, a benzothiazepine, a phenylalkylamine, verapamil, a diarylaminopropylamine ether, bepridil, a benzimidazole-substituted tetraline, mibepradil Piperazine, flunarizine, (\pm)-verapamil hydrochloride, omega-Agatoxin TK, omega-Agatoxin IVA, amiloride, (\pm)-Methoxyverapamil, aminohexahydrofluorene, calciclidine, calciseptine, diltiazem, flunarizine, FS2, galanin, HA 1004, HA 1077, nitrendipine, TaiCatoxin, protopine, BAPTA, MAPTAM, and EGTA.